

"I would ask Presidents and Prime Ministers of every Country to ask their respective Parliaments to see 'Washington Masquerade' "—Ray Lewis

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 24, No. 18

TORONTO 2, CANADA

August 27th, 1932

SKYSCRAPER SOULS

**Held Over 2nd Big Week
at Capitol Theatre, New York**

WARREN
WILLIAM

and

Maureen O'Sullivan
Gregory Ratoff
Anita Page
Verree Teasdale
Norman Foster
George Barbier
Jean Hersholt

From the Book
"SKYSCRAPER"

By

FAITH BALDWIN

Directed by Edgar Selwyn
A Cosmopolitan Production

**When you talk about
Extended Run Hits,
you're talking about**

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

BY THEIR WORKS YE SHALL KNOW THEM!



TOD BROWNING

When thrillers are to be made, they call on the Master of Them All!



SAM WOOD

A name that you'll find only on fine pictures. "Huddle" his latest!



SIDNEY FRANKLIN

The magic touch that has made box-office history. A director among directors!



CLARENCE BROWN

Too many hits to list! "Let's Lynton" is his latest sensation!



EDMUND GOULDING

"Grand Hotel"—need we say more!



CHARLES BRABIN

His latest "Washington Masquerade" has won unstinted critical acclaim!



W. S. VAN DYKE

He's up in the Arctic now making a follow-up to "Trader Horn" and "Tarzan!"



GEORGE HILL

"Hell Divers" added another Big One to his long line of consistent hits!



JACK CONWAY

"Red Headed Woman" made a bigger than ever success out of him!



EDGAR SELWYN

"Skyscraper Souls" currently gives new evidence of his prowess!



ROBERT Z. LEONARD

His fame is immeasurably enhanced with the success of "Strange Interlude!"



GEORGE FITZMAURICE

Entrusted with "As You Desire Me" he turned out the Year's Smash winner!



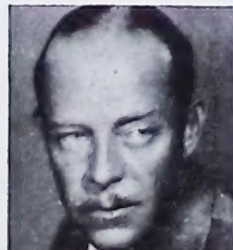
EDWARD SEDGWICK

Wait 'till you see his comedy "Speak Easily!"



JOHN FORD

Leave it to M-G-M to add the best directorial talents to its roster!



HARRY BEAUMONT

Pictures like "Dance Fools Dance" and "Laughing Sinners" are his meat!



CHARLES RIESNER

"Politics" "Reducing"—he packs theatres with folks who love laughs!



HARRY POLLARD

His humanity in directing "When a Feller Needs a Friend" won wide praise!

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Star Power! Story Power! Director Power!

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

Telephone: Waverley 4929

Cable: Ontocanada

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. Toronto

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

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MILLION DOLLAR TRENTON PROJECT?



THE Trenton Studio is located at Trenton, Ont., not so far from Toronto that a motor trip, or a bus trip cannot get you there in less time than it takes to talk about it. The

road is excellent, and incidentally there are railroad facilities also.

The Trenton Studio has a past, a moving picture past associated with Canadian film ventures. It has a present, since the former Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Howard Ferguson purchased it for the Government.

The Government is interested in having this studio utilized for the production of Canadian-made motion pictures; and in turn utilizes this studio, which has been "sounded" for the production and technical requirements of Government-made films.

Recently there was a story to the effect that Trenton would house a new million dollar firm to make movies.

"Clive Brook", "Reginald Denny", "Polly Moran", "Dorothy Mackaill", were among a list of stars named and "Alan Dwan", "George Melford", "James Whale" among the list of producers.

Incidentally the announcement did not omit to mention that "a number of important business officials are reported to be interested in the venture, including Sir Herbert Holt, and E. W. Beatty, both of whom have indicated sympathetic interest."

There is a further statement which does not overlook a promise of quota protection from the Prime Minister.

The Digest interviewed a government official, who should know what goes on, or is to go on at Trenton. He had read the announcement,

and informed The Digest that it gave him "a great laugh".

However, quite a number of people laughed when the announcement first appeared in connection with "Bairnsfather's Carry On"; and quite a number knew that the laugh was on them when there was no "carry on".

Canadians are advised to "sit tight" on any investment in Canadian Motion Picture production unless the enterprise is managed, and under the control of film people who know the business of Motion Pictures; and are in a position to protect Canadian investors.

HEAR LEO LAUGH

LEO has a laugh just like a lion's roar. The inspiration for the present roaring laughter is Leo's comedy team, Laurel & Hardy, who have recently completed a tour, throughout Great Britain, which the English press describes as "history-making".

The scenes at the various points of contact have been so sensational as to be almost incredible. At Glasgow, so great was the crowd to give these funsters welcome, that Laurel and Hardy ceased to be a team, Laurel was carried by the mob in one direction and Hardy in another. What a situation for a Laurel & Hardy comedy.

It is lucky for Leo, that he is not responsible for the damage done to railroad stations by the seething crowds, which tore everything out of their way in order to see Laurel & Hardy.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

MOTION PICTURES now enter the domain of internationalism. The first international alliance in the Industry of Motion Pictures has been announced from the New York offices of United Artists.

Hubert T. Marsh, Managing Director of the British and Dominions Film Corp., London, and Joseph M. Schenck, President of United Artists, have transacted an agreement whereby United Artists will release the British and Dominions pictures in Canada, Australia, India, with a supplementary contract which gives United Artists releasing rights for British and Dominions all over the world.

Mr. Marsh formally announced this affiliation at a banquet at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London, Wednesday, August 24th, and this was relayed by telephone to Mr. Joseph Schenck at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, and from there transmitted to Hollywood, where Mary Pickford spoke, introducing Fairbanks, Colman, Jolson, Cantor, Chaplin. Jack Buchanan replied from London.

Among the British and Dominions' stars are Tom Wallis, Ralph Lynn, Leslie Howard, already known in the U.S. and in Canada.

MR. SCHENCK, during his announcement, stated that he believed England had some of the greatest artists in the world, and he saw no reason why American screens should not welcome them!

English stars have made phenomenal successes on the American stage, and why not upon the American screen, is the substantial argument of Mr. Schenck.

Following this world tie-up between United Artists and British and Dominions, there is the former tie-up of World dimensions between Gaumont-British, UFA and Paramount.

The latest report of the Gaumont-British-UFA alliance, comes from Mr. C. M. Woolf, joint Managing Director of Gaumont-British Pictures Corporation Ltd., who states that at least twenty British players will make films in Berlin under the auspices of Gaumont-British in collaboration with the UFA company.

This British-German tie-up is just fourteen years later than *The Digest's* promotion of it, in London, in 1918, when Ray Lewis, as special representative of Messrs. Jule and J. J. Allen, endeavored to promote such an affiliation, as Mr. J. J. Allen will corroborate.

AT that time there were already German pictures in London, which could be seen at several exchanges. "Passion" with Pola Negri was one of them. These showed such skill in photographic effects, such artistry in direction, that your

editor saw that Germany must become a power on the screen, in film production.

English pictures then, as now, were superlatively fine in story values and in the ability of their screen artists. Their weakness was in the technique of production, the lack of the flair of the screen, which the German pictures caught from the United States and technically improved upon!

However, Mr. J. J. Allen said, "You are ten years too early in your proposals", and perhaps it is just as poor business to be ten years too early as ten years too late!

With the development of the British Film interest from the American angle, the British film interest in Canada; and other developments in our Industry of Motion Pictures generally, we find that the Industry is catching up with The Digest, on many of its former suggestions and proposals; and that we have not always been "ahead of the ripe time", but in tune with the time, listening in, attentively, and recording what we observe, but that the Industry has been "The Laggard".

THIS leads us to suggest that Radio artists, who sing in a whisper into Mikes, and have these tones amplified, through whatever the process is, be left to perform this work in the Radio studio and not on what is supposed to be a vaudeville stage. If one is to listen to this manner of entertainment, one might as well stay at home; and turn on the Radio.

The whole presentation accentuates the mechanical processes of entertainment; and this we must eliminate.

The stage is a platform of illusion, why show us the "works"?

The Radio is also an illusion, a miracle, when one is not shown the mechanical processes by which a voice may fill, with song, your drawing room.

It is a good advertisement for Radio, for Radio-stars and mikes to appear, but it is another nail in the coffin of the Art of Vaudeville, and Showmanship.

Imagine Barnum showing you the process by which his bearded lady assumed her beard, or the mechanical operation which turned an ordinary elephant white!

THINK it over, Mr. Aylesworth, we like what you have to say, your line of thought and your candour of expression! We need more men, big men, like you, to talk your way, in order to convince a disillusioned public, that not all the big men in Industry, in Finance have been overestimated, some are legitimately top-notch financiers, industrialists, but

(Continued on Page 5)

Sidney Kent, President Fox, states Gaumont-British Fox Accord



Show Business



Regal's "Sunshine Group" Lining Up Strong

B RITISH-MADE feature pictures are steadily gaining favor with Canadian audiences and more and more theatres are booking blocks of them for showing during the coming new season.

It has been an up-hill battle to bring about this much-to-be-desired result. Leading in the fight was Regal Films Limited. In planning the campaign to popularize the product Regal first of all made sure of quality. The company's resident representative in London was commissioned to search out the best of the product produced in the Old Country. Scores of prints of features were shipped to Canada. On their arrival here they were screened before a committee of experts to make sure of their fitness for Canadian audiences. A large number of them were rejected. Those that gave evidence of being popular with Canadian theatre-goers were carefully screened again and again. Here and there cutting was resorted to in order to speed the action.

When it finally was decided to accept a picture for Canadian distribution there was no doubt of it being box office attraction. The result of this careful selection was such outstanding successes as "Sunshine Susie", "Michael and Mary", "The Ringer", "The Ghost Train", "The Middle Watch" and many others.

Even greater care has been taken in selecting Regal's 1932-33 British features. But the task this year was not as difficult as last year, for the backbone of the new product is Gaumont-British, England's leading producer. "Gainsborough" and "British Lion", will form the backbone of the new Regal British product. There will be twenty-four of these features, to be released as Regal's "Sunshine Group". Seventeen of the features have already been chosen and present features that give every indication of being successful. The seven still to come will be selected from outstanding attractions that are now in production.

The Gem Theatre, Edmonton, Alta., joins the rest of the theatres which employ Union operators. Following a short lockout, the Union operators, with the help of public opinion, won their objective! All theatres in Edmonton are now Union.

"Washington Masquerade" Is Great

"Every politician, great and small, every voter should see Lionel Barrymore in "Washington Masquerade", which takes its place beside Arliss in "Disraeli".

I cannot remember the time when a picture, on the screen was more inspiring!

Leo has done it again, for "Washington Masquerade" can be summed up in one word "great".

—Editor.

Sam Morris Announces Warner-First National English Plans

SAM E. MORRIS, Vice-President of Warner Bros.-First National, who has been on the Continent, where he visited the Warner German and French units of his company, recently visited London. Mr. Morris informed the press that his present visit was largely to do with his company's producing plans in England, France and Germany.

Foreign versions on "The Crowd Roars" and "Alias The Doctor" have recently been satisfactorily completed.

"During 1932 we shall probably produce eight pictures in French and four in German", said Mr. Morris.

"Progress at Teddington is progressive," added Mr. Morris, "we have endeavored to make, and I think we have been successful in making, good British pictures. Two recently completed, star that fine British actor, Percy Marmont, in "The Blind Spot", and "The Silver Greyhound". I have seen both in our theatre at Warner House. Incidentally we are the first British company to sign a British actress who has had no previous film experience. Joan Marion has been given a five years' contract by our company, with the definite view of making her a British film star of importance, for our British pictures.

It is our intention to build British stars. Florence Desmond, another of our stars will appear in four pictures. In all we are intending, during the next twelve months, to produce twenty English pictures, about two a month."

Canadian Northern Electric engineers working on the Patricia Sound equipment, at London, Ont., changed this equipment from battery to the generator system, with the result that more perfect reproduction will now be possible.

Ray Presents

(Continued from Page 4)

"believe it or not", when Radio stepped into Show Business, and continued therein, its policy should have been, should be, to be heard, not seen; and that if Radio has Radio in its right hand, and Motion Picture Business in its left hand, for the future development of Amusement Control, follow the advice of the Bible; and "let not your right hand know what your left hand doeth", so that your public remains unaware of the grip of the hand-clasp!

Motion Pictures became the world's most popular entertainment because it "fooled the world with romance".



Cows must eat Mustard for Motion Pictures to exist states Col. Solbert of Eastman Kodak! Now we know why our films are so hot. Tres Moustarde!

Imperial Conference Recommends Suggestions on Films and Radio

The Imperial Conference at Ottawa, recommended the following, as suggested by a sub-committee, who considered Films and Radio.

Films and Radio.

"Films and radio.—Special notice is taken of the need for the continued development of radio and film facilities throughout the commonwealth.

The connection of these forms of instruction and entertainment with the cultural, as well as commercial development of the peoples of the commonwealth, is emphasized.

(a) Cinema—Substantial progress has been made in the exhibition of commonwealth films; mainly due to their improved quality. In some parts of the commonwealth this progress is ascribed to the quota system. In spite of this progress, however, prior developments and financial arrangements give an advantage to other productions, and encouragement is required to insure the development of the film industry throughout the commonwealth.

The suggestion was made to the sub-committee that such encouragement might be assisted, as well as revenue derived, by the imposition, in addition to the footage customs duties now in force, of a special levy upon the renting value of all foreign films displayed.

In the interests of the distribution of commonwealth films, close contact should be maintained between commonwealth producers and the censorship authorities in the different countries.

It is suggested that those dominions which levy a duty on films should consider the possibility of admitting free a single positive of each commonwealth film, under bond for exportation within 30 days in order to afford exhibitors an opportunity of viewing the film without the payment of duty upon those films which prove to be unsuitable for display.

(b) Radio:—Closer liaison between the responsible bodies controlling radio in all parts of the commonwealth, is recommended. This would assist towards the ideal of ensuring accessibility to the whole commonwealth of all material and programs of general interest. It should lead also to an interchange of facilities possible through mechanical recording and reproduction."

With the Irish Free State and South Africa both strongly opposed to the establishment of an Empire trade secretariat, the Imperial Conference recommended that a committee of representatives of each Empire Unit should try to find some means of constant consultation on economic matters between the Dominion.

The British Government continues in this respect to support the Empire Marketing Board until September of 1933.

Youthful Prisoners Guilty of Attempted Robbery

Albert Miller, ex-convict from Bell River, Ont., James Enright, 21 years old, from Port Arthur, Ont., and Paul Johnson, a third youth, were found guilty of attempted robbery, before Magistrate R. M. Noble, of Winnipeg.

The young men, filled with a mixture of intoxicating beverages, walked into the Playhouse Theatre, Market St. E., Winnipeg, and gave the usual "hands-up" order to the manager, who was in front of the theatre, ordering him further to hand over the money.

Foster with both hands suspended, added a home run and a few western whoops, which alarmed the hold-up artists to such a degree that they stared to run also.

They were later arrested, tried and sentenced.

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein—"White Zombie", a United Artists feature with Bela Lugosi, Madge Bellamy, Joseph Cawthorn and Robert Frazer. It was directed by Victor Halperin, from the story by Garnett Weston.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley—"The Ghost Train", a Gainsborough picture with Jack Hulbert and Ciceley Courtneidge, in its second successful week.

TIVOLI—Manager M. J. Doyle — Frank Buck's R.K.O.'s feature "Bring 'Em Back Alive", in its second week, playing to capacity houses. Picture directed by Clyde E. Elliott.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — "Forgotten Commandments", a Paramount film, with Sari Maritza, Gene Raymond and Irving Pichel. Directed by Louis Garnier and William Schorr.

IMPERIAL—Manager H. V. Knevels — "The Devil and the Deep", a Paramount picture, with Tallulah Bankhead and Gary Cooper, directed by Marion Gering.

Not Paramount Agent

Kenneth J. Bishop, whose name is in the draft of the lease on the Manufacturer's Building at Victoria, is said to be a motion picture producer from California. He will, if arrangements are completed, produce six pictures at the "Willows", which are to be purchased by an English company.

Mr. Bishop states he is not a representative of the Paramount Company, as was alleged to have been stated by Alderman H. O. Litchfield at a meeting of the City Council.

The solicitors of the British Columbia Company, making this announcement, stated they wished to stress the point that Kenneth Bishop is not an agent for Paramount.

Mr. W. C. Brickford of Toronto is said to have leased Weller's Theatre at Trenton, Ont., and will re-open it with first class motion pictures. Road Shows will also be played during the season.

"The Ghost Train"

Regal's Gainsborough feature "The Ghost Train" was held over for two weeks at the Uptown, Toronto. It is winning editorial praise wherever it is shown; and praise from exhibitors, who are always inspired by the box-office comments.

The Mail & Empire editorially states "We have pleasure in commending this picture both for its own sake, and because it is one of the British products which we should like to see presented more frequently in Canada."

We agree with The Mail & Empire; and with all the praise which "The Ghost Train" has won. The Digest recommends it as a "cracking good picture", and agrees with the editor, who publicly said, "in producing this picture, the Gainsborough studios were given every assistance by the Great Western Railway. The result is one of the most remarkable train wrecks ever presented in a film."—EDITOR.

"Progress on Parade" a sound film of Canadian National Exhibition has been made in Toronto

Round About the Studios

May Remake "The Arab"

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is considering remaking "The Arab", which they produced about eight years ago, as a silent film, with Alice Terry and Ramon Novarro, and Rex Ingram directing. If the picture is remade, Novarro will be given his original role.

Universal Adding to Cast of "Lost Special"

"The Lost Special" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, which Henry MacRae is directing for Universal, is acquiring football players and former serial stars by the wholesale. Last week MacRae added Reb Russell, who is also playing in "All America", to the cast, which already included the famous Ernie Nevers. The former serial stars are Joe Bonomo, "the strongest man in the world", Francis Ford and Edmund Cobb. Frank Albertson and Cecelia Parker have the romantic roles.

"Conquerors" Company Leaves for Location

Ann Harding and Richard Dix together with other members of their RKO Radio Pictures, co-starring vehicle, "The Conquerors," headed by William Wellman, who is directing the film, and a crew of cameramen and technicians have left the RKO Radio studio for a two weeks' location stay at Sacramento and Sonora.

"The Conquerors" is an original story by Howard Estabrook, with Edna May Oliver, Guy Kibble, Julie Haydon and Jed Prouty playing the featured roles.

Premiere for "Rain" September 9th

"Rain", the Lewis Milestone production starring Joan Crawford, will have its world premiere at Sid Grauman's Chinese Theatre, Los Angeles, on Friday, Sept. 9, it was announced yesterday by Al Lichtman, Vice-President and General Manager of United Artists.

It will be shown in New York soon afterward.

Ban on "Lulu Belle"

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, for the third time, has failed to overcome the Hays' office ban on the play "Lulu Belle". Metro had intended using Jean Harlow in the title role.

Marie Dressler Back at M-G-M Studio

Marie Dressler, after an eight weeks absence from the M-G-M studio, has returned to do some retakes on "Prosperity", her next Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature, which Sam Wood is directing. On account of a recent illness Miss Dressler will only work two or three hours a day.

Edna Best and Marshall in "The Faithful Heart"

Edna Best and Herbert Marshall, those ideal "Michael and Mary" lovers, are co-starred again in "The Faithful Heart" and English critics are comparing these players to the Janet Gaynor-Charles Farrell combination, long known as the sweethearts of the screen. Miss Best and Mr. Marshall are Mr. and Mrs. Marshall in real life, so it is little wonder that their love-making has such a natural and appealing quality.

Ayres Starred in "Ships of Chance"

Lew Ayres will next be starred in an original story, tentatively called "Ships of Chance," by Kubec Glasmon and John Bright. He has just completed his role in "Okay, America," the William Anthony McGuire story originally written for Walter Winchell.

It is understood that Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will broadcast, Sept. 1st, a program tied up with the new Dressler film "Prosperity". Those broadcasting will be Marie Dressler, Jimmy Durante, and Polly Moran.

Cast of "Press Agent"

Colleen Moore and William Haines have been given the leading roles in the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film "Press Agent". The script was written by Nat Dorfman, and will be directed by Sam Wood, under the supervision of E. B. Derr. This will be Derr's first M-G-M supervisory job.

Warner Buys Rights "Forty-Second Street"

Warner Bros. have announced the purchase of the screen rights to "Forty-Second Street", a new novel of theatrical life by Bradford Ropes which is shortly to be published by Alfred H. King, Inc. In "Forty-Second Street", according to the publishers, "all the color and excitement of our show business, from casting day to opening night, is dramatically revealed." The picture version will be lavishly produced with a cast of stars and featured players. Bradford Ropes, author of the novel is a young man who can claim descent from Governor William Bradford of early Massachusetts fame, and the young man himself has been associated with the theatrical business and with metropolitan journalism for several years past. "Forty-Second Street" is expected to go into production at the Burbank studios late in September.

Neil Hamilton Joins "Animal Kingdom" Cast

Neil Hamilton has been added to the cast of "Animal Kingdom" by David O. Selznick, executive vice-president in charge of RKO production. Hamilton joins an impressive array of names that will be headed by Leslie Howard and Ann Harding. E. H. Griffith is to direct "Animal Kingdom," considered one of the finest plays of the past two seasons.

"The Rome Express"

"The Rome Express" is said to be England's rival to "Grand Hotel", as it has the best and strongest cast ever assembled for a British film. All the scenic and other evidential aspects of the film of train journey from Paris to Rome have already been filmed for use as backgrounds in the Dunning process, a method which enables story action to be played against natural scenery in the studio.

COMPLETE Theatre Equipment and Supplies

Projectors and Parts.
Motor Generators.
Sound Screens.
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Everything for the Theatre
from Sheet to Street.

Coleman Electric Co.

258 Victoria St.
TORONTO, ONT.

"Bring 'Em Back Alive" in its second week at the Tivoli. What a picture!

BRINGING BUSINESS

To Canadian Theatres! Regal's Empire-Made Pictures Are What Canadians Want!

ARE YOU READY TO SUPPLY THE DEMAND?

Look at Regal's 1932-33 Line-up of Empire-Made Feature Pictures! These Splendid Attractions Will Make Canadian Box Office History During the Coming Year!

Regal's "Sunshine Group" of Box Office Pictures

"MARRY ME"—Starring Renate Muller, the "Sunshine Susie" girl.
 "JACK'S THE BOY"—Starring Jack Hulbert, world's funniest man.
 "ROME EXPRESS"
 "GOOD COMPANIONS"
 "THERE GOES THE BRIDE"
 "THE FAITHFUL HEART" — Herbert Marshall and Edna Best.
 "WHITE FACE"
 "LOVE ON WHEELS" — Starring Jack Hulbert, Canada's Favourite Comic.
 "THE FRIGHTENED LADY"
 "THE FLYING SQUAD"
 "SALLY BISHOP"
 "THE MIDSHIPMAID"
 "SENSATION"
 "THE MAN FROM TORONTO"
 "BARGAIN BASEMENT"
 "MAN OF ARAN"
 "THE OPERA BALL"
 SEVEN OTHER TITLES, to be selected from England's best.

In two years Toronto's big Uptown Theatre has held over only two pictures, "Sunshine Susie" for six weeks and "The Ghost Train" which is now in its second week, both are British pictures released by Regal and feature Jack Hulbert, world's funniest comedian.

UPTOWN

THE THRILL OF A
LAUGH TIME!

A hilarious night of terror in a
lonely English railway depot

**JACK
HULBERT**

LANKY FUNSTER OF
"SUNSHINE SUSIE"

**"GHOST
TRAIN"**

with **CICELY COURTNEIDGE**

To-day at 1:10
3:20, 5:30
7:45, 9:55

**HELD
OVER**
FOR A
2ND
BIG
WEEK

➡ Regal Exchange Managers are British film experts and will show you why British pictures will increase your business and help you obtain local co-operation that will attract additional dollars to your box office.

REGAL FILMS LIMITED, Canadian Distributors